

November 9, 2012

Pearl Calahasen brings experience and energy as new NADC Chair

Peace River... The Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) welcomes Pearl Calahasen as the new Chair. Ms. Calahasen is the MLA for Lesser Slave Lake, and the NADC's first female Chair.

Ms. Calahasen brings a wealth of experience and insights to the NADC, developed through her twenty-three years as a Member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly. Born and raised in Grouard, Ms. Calahasen understands the priorities of northern Albertans and the potential for development in northern communities.

Ms. Calahasen has previously served as the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Associate Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, Minister without Portfolio Responsible for Children's Services, and chair of the Standing Policy Committee for Sustainable Resource Development. An educator and a role model in the Aboriginal community, Ms. Calahasen currently is also an adjunct professor at the University of Alberta's Faculty of Extension.

Ms. Calahasen is motivated by her passion for her home province and for northern Alberta. She is looking to move forward with an ambitious plan: "I believe that a priority for all of Alberta, but especially the north, is to position ourselves on an international stage. Albertans contribute in a very real, tangible way to the world markets and it will be an exciting time as we go forward putting Alberta on the map."

Under Ms. Calahasen's leadership, the NADC will focus on advancing our economic future, enhancing education and entrepreneurship, and managing growth while maintaining the health and prosperity of our communities.

"We are looking forward to Ms. Calahasen's leadership as the NADC engages with the issues that affect the lives of northern Albertans", says NADC Executive Director Cathy Goulet. "Her experience will help the NADC achieve its vision of 'A stronger Alberta through a stronger north'."

The NADC works collaboratively to advance northern development and advises government on opportunities and issues for the benefit of Albertans. This next year will be an important landmark in the organization's history as the NADC will celebrate its 50th anniversary. The Council will next meet in Edmonton on November 14th, 2012.

For more information about the NADC, visit www.nadc.ca.

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